

No. 1126. Telephone Systems—Summary: 1985 to 2000

[112 represents 112,000,000. Covers principal carriers filing annual reports with Federal Communications Commission]

Item	Unit	1985	1990	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS <sup>1</sup>										
Carriers <sup>2</sup>	Number	55	51	52	53	51	51	52	52	52
Access lines	Millions	112	130	157	166	178	194	205	228	245
Business access lines	Millions	31	36	42	46	49	53	57	57	58
Residential access lines	Millions	79	89	98	101	104	108	110	115	115
Other access lines (public, mobile, special)	Millions	2	6	17	19	25	33	38	55	72
Number of local calls (originating)	Billions	365	402	465	484	504	522	544	554	537
Number of toll calls (originating)	Billions	(NA)	63	83	94	95	101	97	102	106
Gross book cost of plant	Bil. dol.	191	240	272	284	296	309	325	342	362
Depreciation and amortization reserves	Bil. dol.	49	89	116	127	138	149	163	176	190
Net plant	Bil. dol.	142	151	157	157	158	160	161	166	172
Total assets	Bil. dol.	162	180	196	197	198	198	200	204	214
Total stockholders equity	Bil. dol.	63	74	72	72	74	72	70	67	72
Operating revenues	Bil. dol.	73	84	93	96	101	103	108	113	117
Local revenues	Bil. dol.	32	37	43	46	50	52	55	58	60
Operating expenses <sup>3</sup>	Bil. dol.	48	62	70	72	74	75	78	79	81
Net operating income <sup>4</sup>	Bil. dol.	13	14	13	14	16	16	18	20	20
Net income	Bil. dol.	9	11	9	11	13	12	12	13	15
Employees	(1,000)	(NA)	569	474	447	437	435	436	436	434
Compensation of employees	Bil. dol.	(NA)	23	22	21	23	22	23	24	24
Average monthly residential local telephone rate <sup>5</sup>	Dollars	(NA)	19.24	19.81	20.01	19.95	19.88	19.76	19.93	20.78
Average monthly single-line business telephone rate <sup>5</sup>	Dollars	(NA)	41.21	41.64	41.80	41.81	41.67	41.29	41.21	41.80
LONG DISTANCE CARRIERS										
Number of carriers with presubscribed lines	Number	(NA)	325	511	583	621	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Number of presubscribed lines	Millions	(NA)	132	148	153	159	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Total toll service revenues	Bil. dol.	43	52	67	74	82	89	94	99	100
Interstate switched access minutes	Bil. min.	167	307	401	432	468	497	519	553	567
INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICE <sup>6</sup>										
Number of U.S. billed calls	Millions	425	984	2,347	2,830	3,520	4,259	4,477	5,305	6,627
Number of U.S. billed minutes	Millions	3,446	8,030	13,616	15,889	19,325	22,753	24,250	28,515	29,216
U.S. billed revenues	Mil. dol.	3,487	8,059	12,543	14,335	14,598	15,662	14,726	14,980	14,901
U.S. carrier revenue net of settlements with foreign carriers	Mil. dol.	2,332	5,188	7,966	9,054	8,434	9,691	9,681	9,869	10,237
Revenue from private-line service	Mil. dol.	172	201	441	514	661	851	921	1,216	1,480
Revenue from resale service	Mil. dol.	(NA)	167	1,121	1,756	3,637	4,112	4,798	4,528	7,366

NA Not available. <sup>1</sup> Gross operating revenues, gross plant, and total assets of reporting carriers estimated at more than 90 percent of total industry. New accounting rules became effective in 1990; prior years may not be directly comparable on a one-to-one basis. Includes Virgin Islands, and prior to 1994, Puerto Rico. <sup>2</sup> The reporting threshold for carriers is \$100 million in annual operating revenue. <sup>3</sup> Excludes taxes. <sup>4</sup> After tax deductions. <sup>5</sup> Based on surveys conducted by FCC. <sup>6</sup> Beginning 1994, data are for all U.S. points, and include calls to and from Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and offshore U.S. points. Beginning 1994, carriers first started reporting traffic to and from Canada and Mexico. Data for Canada and Mexico in prior years are staff estimates.

Source: U.S. Federal Communications Commission, *Statistics of Communications Common Carriers*, annual; *Trends in Telephone Service*, annual; and *Trends in the International Telecommunications Industry*, annual.

No. 1127. Cellular Telephone Industry: 1990 to 2001

[Calendar year data, except as noted (5,283 represents 5,283,000). Based on a survey mailed to all cellular, personal communications services, and enhanced special mobile radio (ESMR) systems. For 2001 data, the universe was 2,587 systems and the response rate was 87 percent. The number of operational systems beginning 2000 differs from that reported for previous periods as a result of the consolidated operation of ESMR systems in a broader service area instead of by a city-to-city basis]

Item	Unit	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Systems	Number	751	1,627	1,740	2,228	3,073	3,518	2,440	2,587
Subscribers	1,000	5,283	33,786	44,043	55,312	69,209	86,047	109,478	128,375
Cell sites <sup>1</sup>	Number	5,616	22,663	30,045	51,600	65,887	81,698	104,288	127,540
Employees	Number	21,382	68,165	84,161	109,387	134,754	155,817	184,449	203,580
Service revenue	Mil. dol.	4,548	19,081	23,635	27,486	33,133	40,018	52,466	65,016
Roamer revenue <sup>2</sup>	Mil. dol.	456	2,542	2,781	2,974	3,501	4,085	3,883	3,936
Capital investment	Mil. dol.	6,282	24,080	32,574	46,058	60,543	71,265	89,624	105,030
Average monthly bill <sup>3</sup>	Dollars	80.90	51.00	47.70	42.78	39.43	41.24	45.27	47.37
Average length of call <sup>3</sup>	Minutes	2.20	2.15	2.32	2.31	2.39	2.38	2.56	2.74

<sup>1</sup> The basic geographic unit of a wireless PCS or cellular system. A city or county is divided into smaller "cells," each of which is equipped with a low-powered radio transmitter/receiver. The cells can vary in size depending upon terrain, capacity demands, etc. By controlling the transmission power, the radio frequencies assigned to one cell can be limited to the boundaries of that cell. When a wireless PCS or cellular phone moves from one cell toward another, a computer at the Switching Office monitors the movement and at the proper time, transfers or hands off the phone call to the new cell and another radio frequency. <sup>2</sup> Service revenue generated by subscribers' calls outside of their system areas. <sup>3</sup> As of December 31.

Source: Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association, Washington, DC, *Semiannual Wireless Survey* (copyright).